



The Trooper

September 2023

Last day to qualify for FREE T-shirts for the WHOLE Troop!

Yes, you heard that right, GSU will be holding a drawing for FREE t-shirts for 20 troops – your troop must have the same number of girls as last year, renewed or new, by September 30th.

Retro Membership Fee of \$15 per person expires on September 30th – any member who renews is automatically eligible for 2010 membership fees.



Troop Leader Tips

Tips from Gold Award Girl Scouts

As the new membership year approaches and troops get back into their yearly schedule, it's a great time to start thinking about Highest Awards. The requirements for earning a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award may look intimidating at first, but these awards are able to be earned by any Girl Scout of any ability level. Some of our 2023 Gold Award Girl Scouts recently had their final interviews after completing their projects and they had some words of wisdom to share with troop leaders and other Girl Scouts. Although these comments were related to their Gold Award, a lot of it can be translated into any of the award experiences.

- "Start early." This is the most common piece of advice we hear from those working on a project. Starting early allows you to effectively work through any issues that may arise and means you won't stress about completing requirements when it comes down to the final moments. Allow your project the time it needs to really flourish and have an impact.
- "Rely on your team and don't try to do everything alone." Although involving the community in your efforts and focusing on leading others are part of the requirements for all award levels, many still mistakenly believe that they need to be the ones personally creating everything. Many Girl Scouts find that people are more willing to help than they initially believed and when they accept help, that it makes the process so much easier. It also brings up new elements or connections the Girl Scout may not have thought about initially and results in a stronger project.
- "Don't tell Girl Scouts that the awards are too hard." One Gold Award Girl Scout recently told us that when she expressed an interest in earning her Gold Award, that her troop leader's initial response was that it would be too hard. This almost derailed her from even starting the process, but by focusing on one step at a time and utilizing the resources provided by council, she was able to successfully complete her project and work through any difficulties she encountered along the way. Trust your Girl Scout, keep them motivated, and help them find a solution or resource they may not have thought of.

LEARN MORE ABOUT HIGHEST AWARDS

Who do you call? Membership Support Specialist!

The fall season of our 2024 membership year kicks off next week. We are pleased to share a few changes with the Membership Support Specialist team. Look for your areas to know who is available to support you.

- Sadie Fowers (sfowers@gsutah.org)
 - Cache (601), Wasatch (606), Crystal View (607), Suncrest (608), Lakeview (609), Francis Peak (661), Frontier (662)
- Sarah Hecox (shecox@gsutah.org)
 - Tooele (614), Aspen (634), Jordan (643), Rosecrest (644), Copper Meadows (649), Hunter Valley (659)
- Mary Nikols (mnikols@gsutah.org)
 - Four Valley (622), Nebo Shadows (623), Uintah Basin (625), Timpanogos (635), Sanpete (653), Sunrise (654)
- Madeline Rhodes (mrhodes@gsutah.org)
 - Fish Lake (624), Navajo Lakes (637), Red Rocks (639), Carbon (640), Desert Sky (648), Sunnyside (668)

We still have one more opening for Membership Support Specialist. When this person is found, they will be covering the remaining areas of:

Alta (604), South Davis (610), Juniper/Cosgriff (663), Mt Olympus (664), Sugar Creek (665), Honeycomb Cliffs (667). If you need support while we are looking for staff, please contact Lisa Timoteo at ltimoteo@gsutah.org.

See a different name for your service unit? Check further down for information under **Service Unit Extras**.



Experience the solar eclipse at the Girl Scout Eclipse Adventure

Join us for GSU's first signature event, the Girl Scout Eclipse Adventure! We're inviting all Girl Scouts to join us for this exciting overnight or day program at Trefoil Ranch October 13 & 14. Spaces are filling fast for our overnight, where you'll enjoy an eclipse themed campfire and space science evening activities, or join us for just Saturday, where you'll spend the whole day experiencing and celebrating the annual solar eclipse at 87% totality. This is an awesome opportunity for budding space scientists, those who love the outdoors, and anybody who wants to experience a once in a lifetime event.

ACTION: Learn more about [Eclipse Explorers Overnight & Day Only events](#).

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Check out the training calendar and register early so your training remains current.

- First Aid/CPR/AED - Oct. 18 in Salt Lake
 - First Aid/CPR/AED - Oct. 21 in American Fork
-

Service Unit Extra

Regional SU Manager Meetings will be held Wednesday, October 25th watch for more information from your MSS in the October SU Team email.

Council Connect is Back! Service Unit Teams should plan to join council the last Wednesday in November, January, and May to get the hottest topics for the service unit & troops.

Cookie Rallies

If your service unit is planning to host your Cookie Rally as a council sponsored event – applications are due no later than December 7th.

Council Sponsored Events

Reminder that this membership year to earn the additional \$.02 cents per package during the cookie program, you must hold 2 council sponsored events and one of the events must be a Day Camp.

Service Unit Structure Update

Each year Girl Scouts of Utah assesses service unit (SU) health and reviews the council structure to see if there is a need to make changes that will benefit the membership within each service unit. This year we have worked with a couple of service units to ensure they will be supported more effectively:

- Oquirrh is dividing into two SUs. Because it is one of our largest areas and potential growth is still in the future, this split will allow for more effective support.
 - Aspen (634) covers South Jordan, Daybreak, and Copperton
 - Rosecrest (644) covers Riverton, Herriman, and Bluffdale
- Juniper and Millcreek will be merging some of their areas. Population growth has been consistently low in these areas and several troops have been disbanding with few new troops coming forward.
 - Sugarcreek (665) will cover Sugarhouse, Liberty Wells, Millcreek, and South Salt Lake
 - Juniper (663) will become a specialty area specifically for troops that meet at J.E. Cosgriff Catholic School.

Quick Links

- Join GSU's team - [**nd and apply to job openings.**](#)
- Receive ongoing communications from GSU - [**GSU's Facebook**](#)
- Salt Lake City and American Fork shop info - [**Retail**](#)



Have a question? Don't be shy!

[**Contact us**](#) for more information.

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